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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 3723 Examiner: Lee D. Wilson In re Patent Application of: Applicant(s): Lawson A. Wood Serial No.: 10/728,819 Filed: December 8, 2003 For: STAPLE PULLER WITH PLIERS **AMENDMENT** FOR REMOVING STRAGGLERS Atty Dkt: Aw-21 September 7, 2004 **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action of June 7, 2004, the period for reply to which has been set to expire on September 7, 2004.

A fee of \$ Nore is being submitted concurrently. Should this remittance be accidentally missing, however, or should any additional fees be needed (including extension of time fees, since Applicant hereby provisionally petitions for any extensions that may be deemed necessary to avoid abandonment), the Commissioner may charge such fees to our Deposit Account number 18-0002, and notify us accordingly.

Please amend the above-identified application as specified on the following pages, and then reconsider the application in view of the Remarks that are presented thereafter.